

FEB 20 2003

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PTO/SB/30 (10-01)

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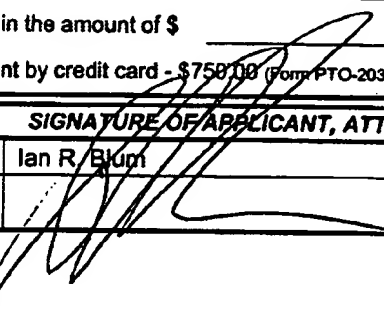
**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**Address to:  
Commissioner for Patents  
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Washington, DC 20231

Application Number	09/557,371-Conf. #8208
Filing Date	April 25, 2000
First Named Inventor	Katsuhiko Ishii
Group Art Unit	2817
Examiner Name	A. Kinhead
Attorney Docket No.	S1905.0095/P095

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3-5-03  
J. Antea

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

**1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114**a. ☒ Previously submittedi. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on December 20, 2002  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_b. ☐ Enclosedi. ☐ Amendment/Replyii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_**2. Miscellaneous**a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.120 is required)b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_**3. Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17 (e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_i. ☒ RCE fee (\$750.00) required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) 02/21/2003 SSESKE1 00000039 09557371iii. ☐ Other 01 FC:1801 750.00 00b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosedc. ☒ Payment by credit card - \$750.00 (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	Ian R. Blum	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	42,336
Signature		Date	February 20, 2003